

BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE

MARCH 25, 2008

A meeting of the Budget Review Committee was held Tuesday, March 25, 2008 at 7:01 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chamber.

Alderman-at-Large Brian S. McCarthy, Chair, presided.

Members of Committee present: Alderman Michael J. Tabacsko, Vice Chair
Alderman-at-Large David W. Deane
Alderman-at-Large Ben Clemons
Alderman Michael A. Tamposi

Members not in Attendance: Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire
Alderman Mark S. Cookson

Also in Attendance: Alderman Richard P. Flynn
Alderman-at-Large Steven A. Bolton
Richard Dowd, Board of Education

COMMUNICATIONS

From: Donald F. Conley, Chief of Police
Re: FY 2008 Police Budget

MOTION BY ALDERMAN DEANE TO ACCEPT AND PLACE ON FILE MOTION CARRIED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS

R-08-14

Endorsers: Mayor Donnalee Lozeau
Alderman Marc W. Plamondon
Alderman Michael A. Tamposi
Alderman Paul M. Chasse, Jr.
Alderman-at-Large David W. Deane
Alderman-at-Large Fred S. Teeboom
Alderman Richard P. Flynn
Alderman David MacLaughlin
Alderman Mark S. Cookson
Alderman Jeffrey T. Cox
Alderman-at-Large Brian S. McCarthy

**RELATIVE TO THE APPROPRIATION OF \$425,000 FOR ACCOUNT 597-86608
“CONTINGENCY NEGOTIATIONS - SCHOOL” WITH THE FUNDING SOURCE
BEING ACCOUNT 412-524 “INTEREST EARNED ON INVESTMENT”**

MOTION BY ALDERMAN DEANE TO HOLD

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Tabacsko

I was thinking that if we are going to be in a position where we need this as a vehicle for amendment at a later date, would it make more sense to go ahead and refer it out to the board so that if we have a special full board meeting that we have it there?

Chairman McCarthy

The board can take it back with 8 votes anyway so it doesn't really matter.

Alderman Tabacsko

Okay then it doesn't matter to me one way or the other. That was just a thought that might make it more expedient for us as a full board.

Chairman McCarthy

As long as it is hanging around somewhere the board can take action on it.

MOTION CARRIED

R-08-15

Endorsers: Alderman-at-Large David W. Deane
Alderman Michael A. Tamposi

RELATIVE TO AUTHORIZING THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC WORKS TO EXPEND THE SUM OF \$26,000 FROM ACCOUNT 972-5341 "EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND, SIDEWALK CONTRIBUTIONS – NORTHEAST QUADRANT" TO PARTIALLY FUND THE CONSTRUCTION OF SIDEWALKS AND A RAISED CROSSWALK ON MANCHESTER STREET AND RESERVOIR STREET IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE TRAFFIC CALMING IMPROVEMENTS PROPOSED FOR THAT AREA

MOTION BY ALDERMAN DEANE TO RECOMMEND FINAL PASSAGE

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Deane

About a year and a half ago we started looking at some traffic calming measures up on Manchester where it intersects with Reservoir Street. We met with the neighbors. Public Works and the neighbors in that area met, and they came up with a design. They put the design out to bid, and it came back – there are three different funding sources, and the design came back as a little more money than what we had. Mr. LeBrun redesigned it, and we submitted it to the Infrastructure Committee for review. The Infrastructure Committee approved it along with the Board of Public Works. This is just the funding source to help move the project along.

There are a couple of folks from the neighborhood here if you are interested in taking any testimony from them on this resolution.

Chairman McCarthy

We can. I am not sure that it will be necessary to the result they probably want. My guess is unless anyone wants to speak against it, it is not necessary.

Alderman Deane

Thank you.

Alderman Tabacsko

This is relative to the ordinance that is coming up on the agenda later tonight at the board?

Alderman Deane

Yes.

Chairman McCarthy

How much money is in that quadrant sidewalk fund?

Alderman Deane

I am not quite sure what the total is. There was not a lot. There are a lot of different quadrant accounts for different areas.

Chairman McCarthy

The motion was for final passage. Is there any further discussion?

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS – ORDINANCES – None

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Alderman McCarthy stated he would like to try to, as the committee goes through the department reviews, end each evening identifying the issues that are likely to be brought up at wrap-up to the extend that they can that early on so that if there is information that is needed the committee can get receive it in a reasonable time period. That would allow the committee to have some knowledge when they get to wrap-up of what the issues were that came up in the departmental reviews. One of the things he has seen in the past is when they get to wrap-up or back to the board there are issues where it was noted that the committee wanted to discuss whether the expenditure should be made or not, but the memory of the discussion is not there because it is out of context by that point.

He asked Alderman Deane if he had anything to add in terms of his experience with the process.

Alderman Deane stated his belief that would work well. Alderman McCarthy stated the clerk could take on that responsibility or the committee could prevail upon the transcriptionist to take care of that section.

Alderman Tabacsko asked if the budget itself was available electronically, and if the Chamber could accommodate review of electronic versions. Alderman Deane stated if documentation of areas wanted to be done the laptop the board has includes a PDF converter and can convert the budget document to a word document so that notes can be placed next to the different lines.

ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN DEANE TO ADJOURN
MOTION CARRIED**

The meeting was declared closed at 7:10 p.m.

Alderman Ben Clemons
Committee Clerk